

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of August 25, 2004.

Reconsideration of the Application is requested.

The Office Action

Claims 1-20 remain in this application.

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 2-4 and 6-20 are directed to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 2 has been rewritten independent form including all of the limitations of independent claim 1 and claims 3-8, which depend therefrom, have been amended accordingly. As such, claims 2-8 are allowable. claim 10 has been rewritten independent form including all of the limitations of independent claim 9 and claims 10-15, which depend therefrom, have been amended accordingly. As such, claims 10-15 are allowable. Claim 16 has been amended to include decelerating means for decelerating the substrate from a process velocity to a low velocity, wherein the transfer velocity is greater than the low velocity and less than the transfer velocity, and accelerating means for accelerating the substrate to the transfer velocity for image transfer. As such, claim 16 and claims 17-20, which depend therefrom, are allowable.

Additionally, claims 1 and 9, as amended, are patentably distinguishable over the prior art. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that registration is performed by a translational electronic registration system, which performs at least one of skew correction, process direction correction and cross-process direction. Likewise, claim 9 has been amended to clarify that the apparatus includes a translational electronic registration system, which system performs at least one of skew correction, process direction correction and cross-process direction. On the other hand, the prior art of record does not include at least these features.

For example, Kawasumi, U.S. Pat. No. 6,529,703, relates to an image forming apparatus having registration rollers 20 of a variable rotating speed. However, Kawasumi does not provide for a translational electronic registration system with the ability to perform cross-process direction correction.

Hozumi, U.S. Pat. No. 6,014,542, relates to an image formation system, which includes registration roller 9. However, Kawasumi does not provide for a

translational electronic registration system with the ability to perform skew correction or cross-process direction correction.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 are not anticipated by the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION


For at least the reasons detailed above, it is submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 1-20) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this Amendment A. However, the undersigned attorney of record hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call John Zanghi at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP



John S. Zanghi
Reg. No. 48,843
1100 Superior Avenue, 7th Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2579
(216) 861-5582

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Date